

LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

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264

FEBRUARY 15, 1955

UNION NEGOTIATORS PRESENT TWELVE DEMANDS TO MACY



ACROSS THE TABLE

**I-S President
Sam Kovenetsky**

**Macy's
Fred Fischer**



President Sam Kovenetsky opened the Union's 1955 drive for higher pay, shorter hours and other contract improvements with the flat assertion that "the people in the store need, and have earned, the dollar benefits and security measures contained in our demands".

Macy's bargaining representative, Vice President Fred Fischer, countered with the statement that, "we want to get forward with this matter as quickly as possible..."

To which the Union's leader replied, "If the company agrees to our demands we can be sure it will be quick!"

At the President's side as he placed the demands before the company were his re-elected Vice President Phil Hoffstein, newly-elected Vice President Bill Atkinson and General Organizer George Gurian. Around the table were the men and women named by the Executive Board to the Union's Negotiating Committee.

The Demands

The Union submitted twelve items on which it aims to negotiate. They are:

1. 10 cent an hour general wage increase.
2. Higher minimum wage.
3. Reduction in hours—40 to 35 per week with no reduction in take-home pay.
4. Increased pension payment to \$50 per month above Social Security and Profit Sharing.
5. No cut in pay for those transferred to lower rated jobs to avoid layoff.
6. Fully automatic wage structure from minimum to maximum.
7. Job evaluation to arrive at the ultimate and complete elimination of inequities.
8. Limit the company's right to change schedules without the consent of the individual.
9. Secure a number of paid sick days each year, in addition to present sick leave provisions.
10. Pay for supper hour when performing overtime work.
11. Commission to be paid on all mail orders and commission department merchandise moved to tables.
12. Contractual guarantees covering sponsoring pay.

Behind the pleasant talk that customarily marks the first meeting of the Union and the company there were indications that the path ahead may be far from smooth. The company posted notice that if they have their way they will attempt to confine the talks to the strictest interpretation of the re-opening clause.

Vice President Phil Hoffstein appealed to the company to keep an open mind on all of the Union's demands. He said, "Lawyers may say that this or that is not negotiable. But the things, and the fringe benefits, we are asking for are the things that are making the people unhappy. Macy's has done more business

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Around the Table



UNION'S NEGOTIATORS MEET to discuss bargaining strategy. Around the table (Left to Right) are: George Karandy, Tony Gentile, David Greenberg, Tony LaSalvia, Marion Cook, Mary Boyd, Mildred Kaplonski, Ceil Curry, Vice President Phil Hoffstein, President Sam Kovenetsky, Vice President Bill Atkinson, Sam Levine, Fred Kramer, Jerome Harte, Patrick Ryan, Peter Gilhooly, Harry Webster and Morris Telzer.

Board Urged to Mobilize Support For Negotiations; Gurian to Organize

The Executive Board, at its regular meeting held on January 25th, heard a report on negotiations as the first meeting with the company neared; applauded the introduction of Bill Atkinson as "Vice President elect"; approved George Gurian as the Local I-S General Organizer; Named a Trial Committee to hear charges brought against three members; Heard a Blood Bank Committee decision to extend the Bank's coverage; And heard a report for work in progress designed to make political action more effective.

Negotiations

Vice President and Board Chairman Phil Hoffstein announced that the Negotiating Committee was being called to a planning meeting four days in advance of the first meeting with Macy's on February 3rd.

He told the Board that, "it is

our estimate that we have a tough fight ahead. I urge you all to be prepared—and to let your people know that they, too, should be ready for a battle."

Vice President Hoffstein also asked the Board's full cooperation in stopping the spread of rumors. He said, "You who have sat on Negotiating Committees know that nothing is final until the last day. And yet you can hear, at any time after the first meeting with management, all the alleged details of what supposedly has been agreed to. Rumors exert far more pressure on the Union than they do on Macy's. That's why we ask you to help stop them!"

George Gurian

President Sam Kovenetsky won the unanimous approval of the Board when he proposed that Vice President George Gurian, who had declined to run for a fourth term,

be named as General Organizer.

The President said, "Many questions have been asked of me concerning George Gurian's future plans. I want the Board to be aware of my desire to have George head an organizing drive for the United Department Store Workers, while working within Local I-S.

"Organization is an important facet of our existence. We have unfortunately been unable to get consistent volunteer help, due primarily to the pressures of the people's work for Macy's.

"We need a person to lead this essential work, and George Gurian has proven his ability in Jamaica, White Plains and Flatbush. New store openings present us with an opportunity and a challenge.

"I therefore propose that the Board approve him for the job of

Blood Bank Votes To Give Parents Vital Coverage

The benefits of the Local I-S Blood Bank are being extended to include the parents of married members, Vice President George Gurian advised the Executive Board on January 25th.

The expanded coverage, limited to five pints to each parent, went into effect on February 1st and will remain in force until the beginning of the next Blood Bank drive in mid-May, if the supply permits.

With this most recent decision of the Blood Bank Committee the Bank's facilities are available to all members of Local I-S, their husbands or wives, children and parents.

The continued coverage of the Blood Bank depends entirely upon the voluntary contributions of Union members and exempt personnel at the time of the annual drive in May.

There is absolutely no charge for any blood that is released, and the limit of five pints applies only to those not covered by the Health Plan.



*If you . . .
your husband
or wife . . .
or children . . .*

NEED BLOOD

FROM THE BLOOD BANK
all you have to do is
CALL WA 4-4540
And Rest Assured That
Local I-S Will Do the Rest

Worth Talking About



By President Sam Kovenetsky

MANY EVENTS OF RECENT WEEKS have underscored the necessity of an all-out fight in support of the proposal to increase the minimum wage to \$1.25 an hour. Other events have shown that the possibilities of victory in such a fight are real. The following factors reveal the necessity of such a fight:

- The increasing number of industries running away to areas which boast of sub-standard wage scales.
- The apparent need for increased purchasing power in order to guarantee a continuing market for consumer goods.
- The need to guarantee workers against the kind of ruthless wage cutting that managements indulged in during the great depression of the 1930's.

Any reader of the financial sections of the large newspapers will find large ads advising businessmen to come to the South or the mid-West, where—they are told—they will be guaranteed abundant labor at a low cost.

This means that the organized communities in our country, where the wage rates and working conditions are best, are the main targets of this anti-labor campaign.

It also means that we who are organized have a special stake in the fight for a national minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour, since such a minimum would remove all (or most) of the incentive a company might have for wanting to run away. So long as a textile worker in the South gets 75 cents an hour while his brother in the North gets \$1.50 an hour, the boss is going to be tempted to head for the South. Raise the pay of that same Southern worker to \$1.25 and the boss is not going to be in such a hurry to face moving expenses and the other costs of relocation.

For us in the department store industry, the problem has still another side. We are not, and never have been, covered by the Federal Wage and Hour Act. We depend on State laws (in addition to our own Union strength) to maintain the floor under our wages and the ceiling on our hours. While we have not suffered because of our exclusion from the Federal law, we know that we would be much more secure if we were protected by laws that narrowed the minimum wage differential between the organized and the unorganized.

We can see more and more evidence of this in the fact that the employers in the retail and department store industry are sparing no effort in their fight to defeat all attempts to include us. Why else would Macy's Mr. Atkinson be heading the fund raising group of the National Retail Dry Goods Association. Why else would they all be so concerned with raising a "war chest" to fight against our inclusion under the Federal Wage and Hour Act?

DESPITE THEIR EFFORTS TO BEAT US, the fight for the \$1.25 an hour minimum wage can be won. So, too, can the fight for the protection of the national law.

In Albany, Governor Harriman has called on the State Legislature to pass a resolution asking the Congress to pass a bill increasing minimums to \$1.25 an hour.

In Washington, Labor Secretary Mitchell has called for the upping of the minimum wage—and has also strongly recommended the coverage of the workers in the retail industry.

In the labor movement itself, strong support has developed for both of these important legislative battles and we can look forward to greater and greater activity.

On behalf of the members of our own Union—and in the interests of all workers in the industry in New York—I have written to the president of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union and to the AFL's Retail Clerks International Union asking them to meet with me to discuss the ways and means of calling a city-wide meeting on this subject. I am looking forward to favorable responses from both Mr. Greenberg and Mr. Lafayette. I am confident that such a conference as I have proposed can lead to a great mobilization of workers in support of a demand that can mean higher pay and greater security for tens of thousands of them.

Needless to say, we are continuing to press ahead at the bargaining table for the higher minimums, the wage increases and the job security needed by our own members. By waging the same battle on the legislative front, we—together with our many allies—can reasonably expect a greater measure of success than we could have if we were to fight only on a single front.

I am confident that every member of Local 1-S will stand ready to give full support to whatever measures the situation demands.

The State of the Union

TEXT OF PRESIDENT SAM KOVENETSKY'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP ON JANUARY 4

The concluding section of President Kovenetsky's "State of the Union" message is printed below. The first installment ended with the president's declaration that economic and political progress can be assured only through the full participation of all members on all levels—Union, City, State and National.

In 1954, we made significant progress in this direction. Many of our members participated in election work that came very close to unseating one of New York's more vociferous anti-labor Congressman. In another campaign many of our members participated successfully in the re-election of one of New York's pro-labor representatives.

1-S Shows Way

On other fronts in 1954 our Political Action Committee was the first to recommend, and our Shop-Stewards and Executive Board members, the first to unanimously adopt a demand for the repeal of the vicious anti-labor Brownell-Butler Law. It should, indeed, be encouraging to every member of our Union to know that not long after our Political Action Committee paved the way on this vital question, the State CIO Conventions of Massachusetts and California followed our lead, and the National Convention itself adopted a similar position.

Thus we can see that we in Local 1-S are not only in step with the best political sentiments in America but in certain cases are able to play a leading part in the continuing fight for a free trade union movement and the preservation of democracy.

Out of the recent National Convention of the CIO came another significant development towards that same end. I mean the move towards final unity of the CIO and the AFL. What that unity can and will mean to us is difficult to state specifically. But if we just stop and realize the potentials of such strength, then we must agree that we cannot afford to remain apart. For within that potential, we have the power to rally new millions of workers to the organized labor movement and the guarantee of full employment; of a living wage; of State and National governments that are mindful of and respectful towards labor in all its dignity and in all its strength.

We all know that such powerful groups of employer representatives as the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce and the National Retail Dry Goods Association and the American Retail Federation spend millions on millions of dollars in lobbying for

the laws that will benefit big business.

They know that the Congress has the power to reduce corporate taxes and they spared no effort to win their point. But we know, too, that Congress has the power to reduce our individual income taxes—and we know that we too can win relief from the heavy load we carry if we apply our political action to the simple bread and butter issues as well as the more complex legislative affairs whose direct affect is not quite as easily seen.

Political Action is the fight for rent control and repeal of Taft-Hartley—and it is the fight to preserve our Constitutional freedoms, which are under sharp attack by the representatives of big business who seek, in every way, to bind us hand and foot in order to destroy our ability to defend our political and economic rights.

It must be noted that the successes we have achieved to this point on the political action front have been accomplished by too few people carrying the big load. There have been repeated appeals for additional volunteers to join in this work. To each appeal, there has been some response. But the response must grow and grow until every man and woman answers it, convinced that the long arm of politics can and does have a direct effect on him or her, on the job and on our way of life.

Just one last word on this question of political action. We have seen the present administration's policy very clearly mirrored in decisions of the National Labor Relations Board over the last two years. The Labor Board seems intent on converting itself into an instrument designed solely to expedite the affairs of management and to increasingly divorce itself from the impartiality which once marked its relations between labor and management. The Board has stripped itself of much of its power and by so doing it has washed its hands. The net effect of this is to say to the employer, "You don't have to contend with the NLRB. You are on your own and give them hell."

One of our goals through political action and working with the new Congress just taking office must be the appointment of pro-labor representatives and the raising of the standards of the NLRB to the point where once again it serves the interests of the country, workers and bosses alike. This is a job that can be done and must be done, if we are to protect ourselves from decrees that can disembowel the labor movement.

Mobilize!

It is against this political background that we must soberly pre-

pare ourselves for our coming negotiations. Many of you who have been here for a long time have heard me urge, year after year, the taking of all steps necessary for a total mobilization of all of our resources in order to guarantee victory.

This year that mobilization must be designed to accomplish two things:

1. To guarantee the most favorable outcome of our negotiations soon to begin.

2. To lay the groundwork for the all-out fight which we may face when our contract expires just one year from now.

To this end I propose that we immediately hold Shop Steward meetings at least once every two months. At such meetings, our leading people will have the fullest opportunity to develop all of the organizational forms that may be needed. Such meetings will afford us an opportunity to fully and freely exchange views on all kinds of questions that have a bearing on the well-being of the membership.

Preparation for our last strike which took place in May of 1953 began in October of 1952. Despite those eight months we found that there were many last minute things that needed doing. We feel that we must have the benefit of at least a full year of work and planning if we are to bring to the bargaining table the strength that can achieve victory without the necessity of a strike, or with a successful strike—if need be.

We can also demonstrate our strength, our determination and our confidence by participating fully in the coming election of Union officers. Your leadership has consistently battled to preserve the high standard of democracy which has always set our Union apart from so many others. Democracy on the local level comes no easier than democracy on the national scene. It, at all times, requires the intelligent participation of the people. It demands a study of the facts and a separation of them from propaganda statements that are unrelated to life. It demands not only making wise judgments, but using the machinery of democracy that is designed to give those judgments the highest form of expression—the election to office of those men and women you believe best able to provide the day by day leadership you need for the fulfillment of your aspirations.

I have been deeply flattered by some of the rumors now current in the store that I have been invited to leave Local 1-S in favor of joining in the leadership of Labor's Crusade on other levels. But I have been more deeply flattered and honored over the years by the fact that the members of

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HELP!
LEGAL CLINIC
SOCIAL SERVICE
COMPENSATION AID
Free of Charge
at the
UNION OFFICE
Every Wednesday
From 5 to 7 P.M.

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CIO's Regional Director Michael Mann administers the Union's oath of office to sixteen elected or re-elected leaders headed by President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and Bill Atkinson.

CIO Leader Presides As 1-S Officers Take Oath

At a simple and dignified ceremony at the Union office, presided over by CIO's Regional Director Michael Mann, President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and Bill Atkinson along with thirteen other elected Union officials, took their oath of office on Friday, February 4th.

The Union's leaders, all of whom won at the polls on January 20 and 21, solemnly swore to "up-

hold the principles for which our Union was founded and to work unceasingly for the economic and social advancement and well-being of our members."

They also pledged themselves to "... remain true to the principles of trade unionism which unite us — the principle of brotherhood and the principle of fighting together in defense of our rights as workers."

The newly-elected and re-elected leaders concluded their oath with these words: "I swear I shall do nothing to bring discredit to Local 1-S or CIO and that I shall serve them both loyally and to the best of my ability—so help me God."

Those whose two year terms of office have just begun are: President Sam Kovenetsky, Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and Bill Atkinson, Recording Secretary Deby Valencia, Financial Secretary Ceil Curry, Trustees Harry Webster, Mildred Kaplonski and Peter Gilhooly; Welfare Board members Jack Fox, Leo Livingston, Louise Agnelli, Alice Donahue, Frances Petluck and Andrew Felicia and Sergeants-at-Arms Frank Milza and Thomas Murphy.

Credit Union Sets Another 3% Dividend for '54

The Local 1-S Federal Credit Union, at its annual membership meeting held on January 28th, voted to again pay a three per cent dividend on all shares on deposit as of December 31st, 1954.

The Credit Union was praised for its record and healthy and consistent financial and membership growth. The work of its officers was hailed as one of the important factors contributing to the steady progress of the cooperative bank whose aim is "to promote savings and to meet the borrowing needs of its members at the lowest possible cost."

Re-elected as Directors of the Credit Union were: Sam Kovenetsky, Jack Schultz, Dorothy Gilmore, Max Strick, Jack Toucey, Mary Delfino, Evelyn Snyder and Berris Gordon. Frank Milza, formerly a Supervisor, was also named as a Director, Agnes Wagner and Kathryn Arendt continue to serve unexpired terms as Directors.

Elected as Supervisors were Louisa Cruz and Oscar Richards. Anna May Lathrop was re-elected. Charles Boyd and Samuel Schwartz were re-elected to the Credit Committee, while Marion Hermann was named to that post for the first time.

Membership in the Local 1-S Federal Credit Union is open to all members of Local 1-S and members of their family living under the same roof. The Credit Union is chartered and supervised by the Federal government and is designed to most efficiently meet all of the average worker's banking needs.

1955 SCHEDULE OF DUES DEDUCTIONS

Macy's will make the remaining 1955 Union dues deductions from the pay envelopes of all members a week after the following dates:

February 26
March 26
April 23
May 28
June 25
July 23
August 27
September 24
October 29
November 26
December 17

FREE EXPERT TAX AID at the UNION OFFICE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 16
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2
From 3:30 p.m.

Tax Forms
Will be Available
Be sure to Bring Your Withholding Statement

Board Urged to Mobilize Support...

(Continued from page 1)

coordinating our organizing drive. I also hope that through the Board, our Shop Stewards and rank and file members can be enlisted to aid this effort."

Trial Committee

Charges were filed against Al Zappala, 58 Department Stockman, Louise Jones of 42 Department and Helmi Pietila of 42 Department Order Filling.

The charges against Zappala and Jones involve abuse of their co-workers. Pietila is charged with having reported to management a minor infraction of rules by another Union member.

The Trial Committee named to hear the evidence against the three consists of:

Ann Arata of the 2nd Floor
David Greenberg, 7th Floor

March of Dimes Drive Gets Off To A Good Start

The annual Local 1-S March of Dimes stepped off at a brisk pace as close to \$500 was turned in by Shop Stewards and Executive Board members within 48 hours of the time the drive got underway.

Even with some Floor and Department leaders still holding collection sheets, a total of more than \$1900 has already been received at the Union office.

Those who have not yet turned in their department's collection are urged to do so immediately, so that a check for the full amount can be turned over to the March of Dimes. Individual members who were not in the store to participate in the campaign can make their contributions directly to the Union office, where it will be added to their department total.

Commenting on the results of the drive to date, President Sam Kovenetsky said, "The response of the members to this voluntary campaign once again proves how conscious we all are of our role in the community. As we always have in the past, we have once again accepted the responsibility of joining in the fight against a common enemy."

"It should be a comfort to every person who gave to the March of Dimes to know that our money, along with the millions raised throughout the country, will be used for the testing and development of a polio preventive. We will all profit from the success we have helped to assure."

Esther Greenberg, Flying Squad
Madeline Lawder, Comparison
Beatrice Montgomery, 4th Floor

Blood Bank

Vice President George Gurian announced the decision of the Blood Bank Committee to expand coverage of the bank to include parents of all members and children. He advised the Board that the balance on hand in the Blood Bank as of January 25th was 479 pints and that the increased number of people covered by the bank would continue so long as reserves permitted.

For additional Blood Bank details, see story on Page 1.

Political Action

In response to a proposal that the Union post on bulletins boards charts or maps showing the city's political districts so that members will know who their State and National representatives are, President Kovenetsky advised the Board that:

"Significant headway is being made in CIO towards a breakdown

of all members based on the districts in which they live. We are participating in this job and will call for help as we need it. We will also need the full cooperation of everyone in keeping all Union lists up to date. Please tell your people to report any change of address—at once!"

The Board then, on a motion by Al Delagarde of Receiving, voted its unanimous support of State Senate Bill #224. The proposed Bill would allow the deduction of Federal income tax payments from State taxes. Members are asked to write to Senate Majority Leader Walter J. Mahoney and Minority Leader Francis J. Mahoney at the Senate Chambers, State Capitol, Albany, N. Y.

It was suggested that in voicing support of the Bill, members would do wisely to point out to the law makers that this proposal will be to the greatest benefit of the upper income brackets, and that still further means should be sought to ease the tax burdens of the lower and middle income groups.

Negotiators Present...

(Continued from page 4)

in the New York store than any other store in the world. This has been possible only through the cooperation and productivity of the people in the store.

"We hope that before you try to eliminate any of our demands that you consider the needs of the people."

Added President Kovenetsky, "You may have questions about the validity of some of these demands, but we urge you to temper your judgment with consideration of how much you owe to the people in the store."

Private Meeting

While allowing that it was too soon to be able to clearly define Macy's approach to the negotiations, President Kovenetsky told the bargaining committee, after Macy's representatives had left the room, that it was their job to convince management that only a genuinely satisfactory agreement would provide a basis for settlement.

The President said, "We must impress Macy's with our determination to gain substantial improvements in the contract. They must be aware that if we don't make real headway over the table that we will not be unwilling to go to an arbitrator. But if we are forced to take our case to an outsider we will also begin to prepare immediately for an all-

out fight in twelve months that will make Macy's sorry that they didn't treat our demands with the respect they are entitled to!"

The President developed this theme by saying that as soon as the company's course became evident he would advocate "the calling of the Executive Board, the Shop Stewards and then the entire membership to special meetings to discuss the concrete ways and means by which we can ready ourselves for whatever may lie ahead."

Word of Caution

Vice President-elect Bill Atkinson, who has served on almost every negotiating committee since Local 1-S first started dealing with Macy's, advised the experienced and novice negotiators that, "As time goes by and the situation becomes more tense, we can expect that the company will be trying to talk about things that are entirely unrelated to our demands. We must be on guard against these efforts, because we would lose sight of our real objectives. By our attitude we must convince the company of our determination!"

Next Meeting

In an unusual display of haste, Macy's Fred Fischer asked for just one week to study the twelve demands submitted to him. The company's first answer to the Negotiating Committee was scheduled to be given on February 10th.

You Can Be Proud to Wear a LOCAL 1-S UNION BUTTON Get Yours Today! Only 50 cents At the Union Office

New Board

The following are the members elected to their Divisional Committees and Executive Board at Divisional Meetings held up to February 7th. * denotes Committee member not on the Board:

White Plains
James Heleringer
Fred Ernst
Helen Ruderman
Jamaica
Anthony LaSalvia
Edward Hansell
Chris Murphy
Basement
Elvio Cotti
Tania Shostak
Eleanor Philips
5th Floor
Jerome Harte
Irving Smooke
Ann Berman
8th Floor
Charles Boyd
Marion Cook
Dorothea Andrews*
Controllers
Ruby Butscher
John Witch
Richard Moore

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence (including maternity and military leave) for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, enters the hospital you MUST call on the Union office for claim forms immediately on entering or as soon as possible thereafter.

Protect yourself — protect your family — protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

The State of the Union...

(Continued from page 2)
our Union have repeatedly wanted me to stay and work with them. It is easy for a person who has not lived with you to extend an invitation, but it's much more meaningful, for you, the people I have been with, day in and day out, and in many cases for more than twenty years, to still want me. I regard this as a high compliment and I thank you. I want to say that I have no intention of leaving you until you say that you no longer want me. My ties with Local 1-S and with you have dominated my life far too long for me to consider a change. I hope that I will continue to merit the support and the confidence that you have placed in me.

New Gains

Despite the somberness of the times we of Local 1-S are able to open 1955 on a new note of triumph. For starting on February 1st a new gain becomes the property of our members, their husbands or their wives and children. For the first time the more than 17,000 people covered by our Health Plan will be able to enjoy the benefits of preventive medicine, will be able to go to their doctors for X-ray and other diagnostic examinations, secure in the knowledge that they are insured.

Your officers, a few years back, worked together with the members of your Welfare Board to organize a panel of topnotch specialists,

surgeons and general practitioners. Under our agreement, if you use any one of these splendid men on the panel your diagnostic care is fully insured and the check you get from Local 1-S will represent payment in full. If you should use a doctor not on the panel you will get the same check from us but it might not completely cover the bill you get from him. We, therefore, urge that you take the fullest advantage of this new insurance by using the other facilities of the Union so that you may enjoy the benefits of 100% insurance.

We also have another kind of insurance. You might call it "Community Insurance". This we have all paid for through our generous contributions to such worthy organizations as the Greater New York Fund, the American Cancer Society and the March of Dimes.

Our Union and one other are the only ones in the city with representatives on the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society. Our Union—because of your fine participation—is most highly respected by the Greater New York Fund. And we enjoy the finest relations with the March of Dimes. These organizations admire us, not only because we are good fund raisers, but because we have shown that we understand that we are a part of our community and willingly do our share to help make it a better one. Also included in our

"Self-help" program is our Blood Bank which has saved hundreds of lives and thousands of hard-earned dollars. We give of our time, blood, energy and money to help our neighbor—because we have learned that when we help our neighbor we help ourselves. And I am sure that we will again demonstrate the deep and abiding truth of that when we start our 1955 March of Dimes campaign later this month!

Your generous participation in community affairs has gained respect and admiration for all of us—and we should all be very proud of our fine reputations and we should guard them well!

Victories Ahead

We feel that this is a fitting way for us to begin the year 1955. We think our new gains, our fine reputation—and our strength may well be the keynote to other victories yet to come. Those victories will depend in large measure on your readiness to support your Union in the fight for them. Your Union is your voice. Your leaders are your strength. You, with your Union and your leaders, can go forward from here in making 1955 a year of economic and political progress. We are united in our hope that 1955 will also be a year of peace and prosperity for all.

OFFICIAL NOTICE Divisional Meeting Schedule

This is the only official notice to be given for Divisional Meetings for all members including Saturday-onlies and Fractionals.

Part-Time and Full-Time workers will meet at the same time for the purpose of electing Executive

Board representatives from all divisions.

Admission will be by 1954 or '55 Union card. An unexcused absence will be liable to a \$2 assessment to the Welfare Fund as provided for in Article IX, Section 4 of the Local 1-S Constitution.

GROUP	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Packing	Tues. Feb. 15	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
Alteration & Repair	Wed. Feb. 16	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
ASD	Fri. Feb. 18	6:30 P.M.	Auditorium
Housekeeping	Sun. Feb. 20	2:00 P.M.	Auditorium
Receiving	Fri. Feb. 25	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
DA-CT	Tues. Mar. 1	6:30 P.M.	Auditorium
6 Floor	Wed. Mar. 2	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
7 Floor	Fri. Mar. 4	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
Supply	Tues. Mar. 8	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
2 Floor	Wed. Mar. 9	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
Parkchester	Wed. Mar. 9	6:30 P.M.	Chester House
Food Dept.	Fri. Mar. 11	7:15 P.M.	Auditorium
9 Floor	Tues. Mar. 15	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium

All meetings, except those of the Branch Stores, are to be held at the Union office, 290 7th Ave. (Between 26 and 27th Streets).

Steward Meeting Calendar

ASD	1st Tuesday of every month	6:15 PM
Controllers	1st Wednesday of every month	6:15 PM
PAC	1st Wednesday of every month	7:00 PM
Ad., Display, BofS, Comp.	1st Thursday of every month	6:15 PM
PAC	3rd Wednesday of every month	7:00 PM
DA	2nd Tuesday of every month	6:15 PM

PERSONALS

FOR SALE—Bedroom set; mattress, spring and frame, dresser and mirror; vanity with mirror and chair. Good condition. Only \$75. Call JA 3-5079 after 7PM.

FOR SALE—Brand new blond oak dresser and chest of drawers. Cost \$250, will sell for half. Phone BU 4-3063 after 6:30PM.

FOR SALE—1-family, 5 room house with two occupied stores in East New York section. Good income. Near all transit and school. Asking price \$8500. Phone TA 7-5724 after 7PM. All day Saturday.

FOR SALE—Navy blue coachette, playpen and car bed. \$50. Phone SY 2-0655 at any time.

FOR RENT—3½ room basement apartment for business couple. \$60 per month, including gas and garage. Phone TA 8-5321.

Personal ads for the Local 1-S NEWS must be received at the Union office by the 1st or 15th day of each month. Ads received on the 1st will appear in the issue dated the 15th. Those received on the 15th will appear in the issue dated the 1st of the following month. This is offered as a service to members of Local 1-S and there is no charge for personal ads.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note: Because of the space requirements during the recent election campaign the publication of many Letters to the Editor has been delayed. We're sorry.

FILM

We are returning your Blood Bank film, and wish to express our sincere thanks for permitting us to use it. It was shown to a special group and they found it very interesting.

Very truly yours,
William J. Honan, Sec'y,
Consolidated Edison
Employee's Mutual Aid
Society, Inc.

MAY I

May I express my gratitude to the Union for their kindness during my illness.

I needed four pints of blood for my operation. A call to the office, and the blood was quickly replaced at the hospital.

I shall always be grateful for our wonderful Health Plan, and the Union behind it.

Sincerely yours,
Selma Kasuto, CMC

BOOST IN MORALE

Thank you for your "get well" card and book. Needless to say, the card and book, which I enjoyed so much, gave me quite a boost in morale—along with the thought that my Union is thinking of my well-being.

Sincerely,
Fred Rathke, 918 Dept.

SINCEREST GRATITUDE

I wish to convey my thanks express my sincerest gratitude to the Union for the blood that was

secured for me during my recent operation.

It is wonderful to know that in time of need Local 1-S is always ready and willing to be of help.

Sincerely,
Johanna M. Bohannon, J5
MANY, MANY THANKS

Many, many thanks to Local 1-S. My husband has been unfortunate. He has had three operations within four years, and each time the Health Plan has been a Godsend to us. He was unable to work because of his condition, but seems to be on the road to recovery.

Many more thanks and my greatest appreciation.

God bless the Health Plan.

Sincerely,
Rose Avella, J5

THANK YOU

Just a line to thank you and let you know how much I appreciate the benefits of the Health Plan.

I've been ill and in the hospital four times the past year and the help I received from the Health Plan was really a blessing.

I thank you, my family thanks you and my doctors thank you.

Sincerely,
Eloise Fuller, Tables

YOU'VE HELPED

To Local 1-S and its wonderful Welfare Plan—to my co-workers for the nice cards, flowers and visits during my illness—and especially to the Maintenance men—I would like to send my special thanks and tell you individually that you've helped me through

your thoughtfulness.

I would like to say a lot of things, but don't know where to start. So I'll just say to all of you "thank you" from my heart.

Gratefully yours,
David Jackson, JKM

HOUSING PROBLEM SOLVED

Many thanks to Michael Klein, CIO Housing Attorney who successfully solved my housing problems.

I attended the CIO Rent Clinic, which is held every Tuesday and Thursday evening at the CIO Council office at 70 West 47th Street, and found Mr. Klein to be of great assistance in getting me an apartment.

This service is available to all members of Local 1-S, free of charge.

Edgar M. Dillard, Steward
3rd Floor Receiving

WONDERFUL

I would like to express my thanks to our Union and wonderful Health Plan during my son's recent emergency appendectomy.

The attending physician, as recommended by our Health Plan, was Dr. Essenson, to whom we are deeply thankful for his prompt attention, kind service and medical skill.

Very sincerely yours,
Mrs. Sylvia Golbin, F9

VERY GRATEFUL

I am very grateful to the Welfare Board for sending me a beautiful book and card and to the many Macyites for their cards, personal visits and phone calls.

Sincerely yours,
Louis Rosenberg, RRRKW

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